STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7584

Petition of Dubois Farm, Inc. and Dubois Energy,	)
LLC ("Dubois Farm") for a Certificate of Public	)
Good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. Section 248(j),	)
authorizing the installation and operation of a	)
450 kW agricultural-methane electrical generating	)
facility at a dairy farm owned by Dubois Farm, Inc.,	)
located at 2038 Route 17E in Addison, Vermont	)

Entered: 9/21/2010

ORDER RE MOTION TO AMEND AND INTERVENTION OF CVPS

I. INTRODUCTION

On May 13, 2010, the Public Service Board ("Board") issued an Order and Certificate of Public Good ("CPG"), pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(j), approving a farm-methane generation project in Addison, Vermont (the "Project"). On July 26, 2010, Central Vermont Public Service Corporation ("CVPS") filed a motion to intervene. In addition, CVPS filed, together with Dubois Farm, Inc. and Dubois Energy, LLC (collectively "Dubois Farm"), a joint motion to amend the May 13 Order and CPG.

In this Order we grant the joint motion to amend and CVPS's motion to intervene.

II. BACKGROUND

The joint motion to amend addresses the interconnection of the Dubois Farm project with the CVPS distribution system. At the time that Dubois Farm filed its Section 248(j) petition, a System Impact Study ("SIS") was being conducted, and the SIS was filed with the Board in March, 2010. Dubois Farm engaged CVPS to complete a Facilities Study to implement the specific equipment and facilities to allow the Project to be safely interconnected with CVPS's distribution system. CVPS completed the Facilities Study on May 5, 2010.

Based on the results of the Facilities Study, the joint motion to amend requests that the Board delete Finding 7 in its entirety and replace the finding with updated information that was obtained through the completion of the Facilities Study. Finding 7 currently states:

> The Project will interconnect with CVPS's existing three-phase distribution system. The Project does not require installation of new utility poles. The electrical cable connecting the generator to CVPS's distribution system will be buried from the generator building to an existing utility pole. Dubois pf. at 6, 9, and 26.

The joint motion to amend requests that the following language be included in place of the existing Finding 7:

> The Project will interconnect with CVPS's existing three-phase distribution system. The electrical cable connecting the generator to CVPS's distribution system will be buried from the generator building to an existing utility pole. In addition to accomplish the interconnection, CVPS will need to install the following equipment:
>
> **At the Dubois Farm in Addison, Vermont**
> Two new poles (Line 3 Poles 102-5 and 102-6) will be installed.
> - One of the poles is a CVPS-owned 60' pole that will serve as the location for a required recloser, radio antenna, and transformer. The CVPS Telecom and Relay Groups will also place two equipment enclosures at the base of this pole.
> - One of the poles is a Dubois Farm-owned 45' pole that will serve as the location for the Project's GSU [generation step-up] transformers with service risers.
>
> **At the Repeater Point in Addison, Vermont**
>
> CVPS will replace an existing distribution pole with a utility-owned 60' pole (line 302 Pole 16). This pole will serve as the location for two antennas and one transformer. Additionally the CVPS Telecom Group will place an equipment enclosure at the base of the pole.
>
> **Near the Weybridge, Vermont Substation**
> CVPS will replace an existing distribution pole with a 60' pole (Line 3 Pole 11). This pole will serve as the base for an antenna and transformer. The CVPS Telecom Group will place an equipment enclosure at the base of the pole. In addition CVPS will run 3,500' of fiber optic cable (some in conduit across the existing hydro dam and on poles after that) from Pole 11 to the Wyebridge substation.

In support of its motion, CVPS submitted prefiled testimony. The Board adopts the findings set forth below to support its conclusion that finding 7 of the May 13 Order should be modified.

The Department of Public Service ("Department") filed a letter stating that it does not object to CVPS's motion to intervene. Additionally, the Department states that "the facility does not raise any significant issues with respect to the criteria of Section 248 and that, if amended as requested, there is no change in our determination regarding the issuance of the Certificate of Public Good."

No other party filed comments on the motions.

III. FINDINGS

1. The farm buildings at the generator site are currently fed from a four-pole tap off CVPS's three-phase distribution line running alongside Vermont Route 17. Upton pf. at 2-3.

2. The Project will be interconnected to the CVPS distribution system by an extension of the tap. The proposed extension will add approximately 250 feet to the tap line, will require two new poles, and will be located adjacent to the generator and an existing barn. The first pole will carry a CVPS transformer and communication equipment. The second pole will be owned by Dubois Farm and will carry the generator step-up transformer and risers for the underground service lines. Upton pf. at 2-4.

3. The CVPS-owned pole will be 60 feet in length, with an above-ground height of 52 feet. The Dubois Farm-owned pole will be 45 feet in length.[1] Upton pf. at 4.

4. The extension of the tap line by two poles will not change the overall appearance of the line. Upton pf. at 3.

5. Earth disturbance associated with the line extension is limited to placement of the poles and trenching associated with placing a portion of the line underground. The poles will be accessible from the existing barnyard and no tree cutting will be required. Upton pf. at 3.

6. The communications equipment located on the CVPS pole will consist of a radio antenna 46 inches in length and 16 inches in height, along with a gray control box (17 x 21 x 10 inches) mounted at the base of the pole. In addition, one antenna is required at a fiber optic connection near CVPS's Weybridge substation and two antennas are required at a repeater site on Briggs Road in Addison (the repeater site is necessary because Snake Mountain blocks a direct

1. CVPS's motion to amend and supporting prefiled testimony does not state what portion of the Dubois Farm-owned pole will be aboveground. However, it appears from the motion that the height of the pole will not be greater than 45 feet aboveground. If this is incorrect, CVPS or Dubois Farm should notify the Board.

line of site between the farm and the substation). Each of the antennas will be placed atop CVPS distribution poles. Upton pf. at 4.

7. The antennas and control boxes will be mounted on distribution poles and will not have any environmental impacts. Upton pf. at 4-5.

8. The installation of the antennas and control boxes will represent a noticeable change from existing visual conditions. However, the equipment will not have an unduly adverse aesthetic impact. Upton pf. at 5-6.

IV. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Based upon the limited impacts associated with the revised interconnection facilities, we grant the joint motion to amend the May 13 Order. Finding of Fact 7, as written in the May 13, 2010, Order, is deleted in its entirety, and the following language is inserted in its place:

> The Project will interconnect with CVPS's existing three-phase distribution system. The electrical cable connecting the generator to CVPS's distribution system will be buried from the generator building to an existing utility pole. In addition, to accomplish the interconnection, CVPS will need to install the following equipment:
>
> **At the Dubois Farm in Addison, Vermont**
> Two new poles (Line 3 Poles 102-5 and 102-6) will be installed.
> - One of the poles will be a CVPS-owned 60' pole that will serve as the location for a required recloser, radio antenna, and transformer. The CVPS Telecom and Relay Groups will also place two equipment enclosures at the base of this pole.
> - One of the poles will be a Dubois Farm-owned 45' pole that will serve as the location for the Project's generation step-up transformers with service risers.
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existing hydro dam and on poles after that) from Pole 11 to the Wyebridge substation.

Letter of July 26, 2010, from Morris Silver, Esq., to Susan M. Hudson, Clerk of the Board.

This Order does not alter any conditions regarding interconnection contained in the May 13 CPG.

Additionally, as no party objects to CVPS's motion to intervene, we grant CVPS permissive intervention pursuant to Board Rule 2.209(B).

SO ORDERED.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 21st day of September, 2010.

s/ James Volz)
) PUBLIC SERVICE
)
s/ David C. Coen) BOARD
)
) OF VERMONT
s/ John D. Burke)

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: September 21, 2010

Attest: s/ Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)

Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within thirty days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further Order by this Board or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration or stay, if any, must be filed with the Clerk of the Board within ten days of the date of this decision and order.